

## **WHITEHALL-COPLAY SCHOOL DISTRICT LOCAL TAX STUDY COMMISSION**

Act 1 of 2006, signed by Gov. Ed Rendell on June 27, 2006, requires every school district in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to establish a local tax study commission. The purpose of the commission is to provide a recommendation to their local Board of School Directors regarding the requirement that school districts must provide a tax referendum question on the May 2007 ballot. The tax commission is required to submit this recommendation to the Board within 90 days after it is appointed.

The referendum question posed to the Whitehall-Coplay residents is a question of whether they want to shift a portion of taxes collected for school district purposes from property taxes to either an additional earned income tax (a tax on wages) or shift to a personal income tax (a tax on earned income and unearned incomes, such as interest income).

The local tax study commission must represent the population of the community in terms of age, occupation, and socioeconomic status to the extent possible. One school board member may be appointed to the Commission, but no other member of the Commission may be an employee or official of the School District or a relative of a District employee or official. Membership of the Commission is limited to five, seven, or nine members.

The Ad Hoc Selection Committee of the Board reviewed all applications and selected members for the commission who reflect the socioeconomic, age, and diversity of the District to the extent possible. The members of the committee are as follows:

Gary Arbogast  
Kelly A. Christine  
Susan E. Mickley  
Jack S. Lisicky

Justin Madaus  
Diane M. Hunsicker  
David B. Woodring